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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/789,441

02/27/2004

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1890-0062

5002

7590 02/26/2009
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EXAMINER

ALIA, CURTIS A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2416

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/26/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 2416

Continuation of 11:

In response to Applicant's argument that the combination of Morris and Hill do not teach "determining a synchronization parameter for synchronization of the second communication channel, the synchronization parameter defining a phase offset for data interchange between the master subscriber and each of the first and second slave subscribers via, respectively, the first communication channel and the second communication channel," the Examiner respectfully disagrees.

In particular, Hill describes in paragraph 27 that a slave subscriber may be a slave in more than one piconet but a master in only one piconet at any given time. As Applicant noted on page 5 of the After Final arguments, Master 1 is master to a slave device Slave 1, which also happens to be Master 2 (a master of its own piconet) which is a master of Slave 2. From paragraph 27, Slave 2 can also be a slave to Master 1, because a slave device can belong to more than one piconet. Therefore, it is the Examiner's best understanding that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have come to the conclusion that Slave 2 would have to determine phase offset parameters so that it has non conflicting channel time so that it is available for both masters. It is reasonable to expect that Slave 2 would make itself ready to transmit for Master 1 and Master 2 at two different times, which can be classified as a phase offset.

/Aung S. Moe/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416